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# INTELLIGENCE GROUP

Auth: DDA 77/1263 INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Date: 5 APR 1978 By: 028

**COUNTRY** Spain

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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**SUBJECT** Statements of Miguel Palacios

**INFO.**

DIST. 20 January 1947

PAGES 2

**SUPPLEMENT**

## ORIGIN

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CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

The following report is based on statements made [redacted] by Lt. Colonel Miguel Palacios on 9 December 1946. [redacted] Palacios has belonged to the CNT for a long period of time and is well thought of by its members. He is extremely anti-Communist. Palacios is the leader of a group of republican military men and advocates collaboration with the monarchists for the reaching of a solution to the Spanish problem. He is the brother of Leopoldo Eulogio Palacios, who is a professor at the Universidad Central in Madrid. The latter is pro-monarchist, and, according to source, Miguel Palacios is influenced to some extent by the political ideas of his brother. Before the Spanish Civil War, Miguel Palacios was a doctor in the Republican Army medical corps. He specialized in tropical diseases and is considered one of the most capable men in this field in Spain. Recently, he has specialized in skin and venereal diseases. During the Civil War, he commanded the Fifth Republican Army Corps in Madrid.

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1. On 5 December 1946, a plenary meeting of the CNT was held at which it was resolved to support the provisional government which is in the process of formation to take over power from Franco. The British Embassy is summoning for consultation various monarchists and outstanding persons of the different leftist parties in an effort to reach an agreement for the formation of such a government. Approaches have been made to the CNT for the purpose of securing its support to a government headed by the Spanish Pretender Don Juan, but the Confederation rejected these suggestions. After having studied the situation, the leaders of the CNT have decided that it is impracticable to seek as the solution to the Spanish problem the immediate establishment of a republican government, whether it be that of Giral or some other government. Neither France, the United States, nor Great Britain appear to be in favor of such an attempt, and it is impossible to go against the tide. When a representative provisional government has been formed, the CNT will make every effort to effect the establishment through a plebiscite of the institution which offers the best guarantees of liberty and of bettering the workers' standard of living.
2. Proof of the fact that the CNT does not advocate the establishment of a monarchy to follow the Franco Government may be seen in the discrediting of Santa Maria for having agreed in Lisbon to a suggestion made by Gil Robles that the CNT support an initially monarchist government.

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3. If it has been said that the CNT was in accord with the monarchists regarding the immediate establishment of a monarchist government, such an impression is traceable to the conversations and actions of the late Sanchez Requena. Because Sanchez Requena had a certain amount of importance as a trade-union leader, many persons, including monarchists, believed that he represented the CNT. Sanchez Requena died suddenly some fifteen days ago of angina pectoris. One of his last actions was to contact a monarchist emissary who was going to Lisbon to discuss the possible constitution of a monarchy which would represent a continuation of the Franco Government.\*
4. There is division in the monarchist camp, as there is in the republican camp, and the division is deep-seated. Were it not for this fact, an agreement could have been reached by the present time between monarchists and leftists. The lack of agreement among the monarchists cannot be attributed merely to a difference of opinion as to whether the monarchy should be restored through a plebiscite or should be restored immediately. This disagreement enters into the situation, but the essential difference lies in the fact that one group continues to defend the old monarchist ideas of privilege, while another is seeking to install a progressive monarchy, which can get along amicably with the workers' parties.
5. Recently, former Finance Minister Jose Larraz Lopez and the present Finance Minister Jouquin Benjumea Burin went to Lisbon as representatives of Franco, and Generals Juan Beigbeder y Atienza and Miguel Ponte Manso de Zuniga made the same trip as representatives of the monarchists in Spain.

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Comments: Sanchez Requena had been outside CNT discipline for many years. He and Angel Pestana, together with twenty-eight other persons, broke away from the CNT and formed the Partido Sindicalista, which recognized the State, in contrast to the CNT as directed by the Federacion Anarquista Iberica (Iberian Anarchist Federation), which recognized neither law nor State. This CNT faction was known as the Grupo Treintista (Group of Thirty), since thirty persons signed the party manifesto written by Angel Pestana and supported by Sanchez Requena, among others. The Partido Sindicalista was strongly opposed by the CNT.

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